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R 141130Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7795

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 5 SAIGON 10734

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT AUG 7-13,1974

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART I -- SUMMARY

1. IN MR-1 ACTION CONTINUED HEAVY, AND THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS SET A NEW 1974 HIGH. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE ROCKETING OF THE AN DO BASE HQ OF THE 3RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE, MAJOR ACTION WAS SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS. THE INTENSITY OF THE FIGHTING DECLINED SOMEWHAT AFTER THE FALL OF THUONG DUC DISTRICT SEAT AUGUST 7. THE NUMBER OF LIGHTER ATTACKS REMAINED HIGH ELSEWHERE IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE--ESPECIALLY IN QUE SON DISTRICT, WHERE A COMPANY OF THE 123D RF BATTALION WAS OVERRUN--AND FOUR DISTRICT SEATS WERE SHELLLED. ARVN FORCES IN QUANG NAM HAVE BEEN BEEFED UP BY THE ARRIVALS OF ONE AIRBORNE BRIGADE FROM THUA THIEN AND ANOTHER FROM SAIGON. IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE, THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUE THEIR OFFENSIVE. SEVERAL GVN POSITIONS HAVE FALLEN, AND REFUGEES ARE FLEEING CONTESTED AREAS. THE GVN EFFORT TO INCREASE SECURITY IN COASTAL AREAS OF THE PROVINCE IS BEING REVERSED. IN MR-2, WHILE THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS BRIEFED WAS DOWN, THE NUMBER OF ENEMY CASUALTIES WAS MUCH HIGHER. THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IN BINH DINH PROVINCE DROPPED THIS WEEK. GVN FORCES RETOOK THE NHONG PASS IN PHU MY DISTRICT, REOPENING QL1 FROM QUI NHON TO TAM QUAN. THE GVN ALSO RECAPTURED HILL 338, COMMANDING THE PORT OF DE GI. THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IN PLEIKU PROVINCE WAS UP SHARPLY. THE ENEMY CONTINUES TO ATTACK PLEI ME CAMP AND FB711 BY GROUND AND ABF. THERE HAVE BEEN FEW GVN CASUALTIES IN THESE ATTACKS, BUT ENEMY CASUALTIES HAVE BEEN HEAVY. HARASSMENT OF LOCS IN THE PROVINCE CONTINUES. THE SITUATION AT MANG BUK AND IN KONTUM PROVINCE IN GENERAL WAS QUIET. ROADSIDE SNIPING IN KHANH HOA PROVINCE SEEMS TO BE INCREASING, AND IS NOW OCCURRING AT ALL HOURS. THE FOCUS OF ACTIVITY IN MR-3 THIS WEEK WAS IN BIEN HOA PROVINCE, WHERE THERE WAS A SERIES OF ABFS AND GROUND ASSAULTS IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICTS. THIS ACTIVITY IS PITTING FOUR RF BATTALIONS AND HEAVY AIR AND ARTILLERY STRIKES AGAINST ENEMY FORCES INCLUDING THREE BATTALIONS SUPPORTED BY LOCAL FORCES ELEMENTS. CONFIDENTIAL
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EIGHT SEPARATE ROCKET ATTACKS ON BIEN HOA AIR BASE SINCE AUGUST 10 HAVE RESULTED IN SIX KILLED, ALL CIVILIANS, AND NINETEEN WOUNDED, INCLUDING THIRTEEN CIVILIANS, WITH SIX F-5AS DAMAGED. THESE ABFS CONTINUE. TOTAL INCIDENTS IN THE MR WERE UP, DUE TO THE SHARP RISE IN BIEN HOA PROVINCE. THE ENEMY CONTINUES TO OCCUPY THE BEN CAT AND BAO BINH AREAS. ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE DELTA REMAINED LOW, AND THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS CONTINUED TO DROP, THOUGH GVN CASUALTIES WERE HIGHER. SIX OF THE NINE OUTPOSTS LOST TO THE ENEMY DURING JULY IN KIEN THUONG PROVINCE HAVE BEEN RETAKEN. ANOTHER MORTARING OF KIEN HOA

PROVINCE TOWN KILLED FIVE AND WOUNDED TWELVE. IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE, WHERE ACTIVITY ROSE LARGELY AS THE RESULT OF TF INITIATIVES, A PF SWEEP IN PHUOC LONG DISTRICT RESULTED IN TWENTY ENEMY KILLED. AT THE ICCS MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETING AUGUST 13, THE IRANIAN CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT THE ICCS PROCEED TO INVESTIGATE "PRG" COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATION REQUESTS. THE COMMUNISTS, OUTMANEUVERED, VETOED THE PROPOSAL. A PLENARY SESSION IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 15. THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS NOW SEEK TO EVACUATE ONE OF THE REMAINING THREE TEAM SITES THEY STILL OCCUPY IN ICCS REGION V. THE COMMUNIST BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED INTO ITS EIGHTH STRAIGHT WEEK. A TURN-OVER CEREMONY WAS HELD AT PHU BAI AIRPORT AUGUST 13, FOR THE RETURN OF THE REMAINS OF AN AMERICAN SERVICEMAN.

PART II -- ICCS

2. AT THE ICCS MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETING AUGUST 13, THE IRANIAN CHAIRMAN SPRANG A PROPOSAL THAT THE ICCS PROCEED WITH FORMAL INVESTIGATION OF "PRG" COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATION REQUESTS DATING FROM SEVERAL MONTHS BACK. SINCE THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS HAVE MAINTAINED THAT NO INVESTIGATIONS CAN BE CARRIED OUT WHILE THE TPJMC IS NOT MEETING, THE COMMUNIST DELS, AS THE IRANIANS HAD PLANNED, WERE MANEUVERED INTO INSISTING THAT THIS PROPOSAL, OSTENSIBLY FAVORING THE "PRG", BE STRICKEN FROM THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AGENDA. THE HUNGARIAN AMB AND MILITARY DEPUTY ARE BOTH OUT OF VIETNAM. THE ICCS HAS SCHEDULED A PLENARY SESSION AUGUST 15 TO CONTINUE DEBATE ON CRUCIAL ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS SUCH AS CONTROL OVER SECRETARIAT ACTIONS AND DESIGNATION OF NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL. ZPRG" HAS FORMALLY REFUSED TO APPROVE ICCS BUDGET OR CONTRIBUTE ANY FUNDS.

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CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
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PART III -- FPJMT, TPJMC, AND RELATED MATTERS

3. THE BOYCOTT OF THE TPJMC AND FPJMT CONTINUED INTO ITS EIGHTH STRAIGHT WEEK AS THE DRV AND PRG DELS AGAIN DID NOT APPEAR FOR SCHEDULED SESSIONS. ON AUGUST 13, A CEREMONY WAS HELD AT PHU BAI AIRPORT, NEAR HUE, AT WHICH ARVN RETURNED THE REMAINS OF A FALLEN AMERICAN TO US FPJMT AND JCRC REPS. COL JOHN H MADISON, CHIEF, USDEL FPJMT ACCEPTED THE REMAINS FROM COL HO NGOC TAM, CHIEF OF THE RVN MILITARY ELEMENT IN TPJMC REGION 1. IN HIS REMARKS, COL MADISON CONVEYED THE SINCERED GRATITUDE OF THE USG AND THE SERVICEMAN'S FAMILY TO THE GVN. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE GVN'S ACTIONS CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT IT IS UNDERTAKING ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 8(B) OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND THESE ACTIONS STAND IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THOSE OF THE DRV AND "PRG", WHO REFUSE TO COOPERATE IN ANY WAY.

PART IV -- COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

4. HANOI, "PRG" CONDEMN VNAF BOMBING. THE DRV FOREIGN MINISTRY AND ITS SOUTHERN MOUTHPIECE, THE "PRG", ACCUSED THE GVN OF INFLECTING "HUNDREDS" OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES IN RECENT BOMBING SORTIES OVER LOC NINH AND BU DOP (BINH LONG) AND XA MAT (TAY NINH). THE COMMUNISTS' COMPLAINTS WERE ALSO FORWARDED FOR THE ICCS. IN A SEPARATE STATEMENT, THE "PRG" FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN DENOUNCED ALLEGED NAVAL ATTACKS IN THE CUA VIET AREA, NEAR THE OLD DMZ, AND CHARGED THAT THE US AIRCRAFT CARRIER RANGER HAD MANEUVERED OFF THE COAST OF BINH DINH PROVINCE "IN SUPPORT" OF THE GVN'S "ACTS OF WAR". RELEVANT PROPAGANDA UNFAILINGLY ASSERTED THAT THE GVN, IN ITS LATEST DEPREDACTIONS, HAD ACTED UNDER US ORDERS.

PART V --MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

ACCORDING TO I CORPS HEADQUARTERS THERE WERE 255 COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS LAST WEEK, A RECORD NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS IN I CORPS IN 1974 AND THE THIRD WEEK IN FOUR THAT A NEW HIGH HAS
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BEEN SET. AGAIN, ALMOST ALL THE MILITARY ACTIVITY TOOK PLACE SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS. FOLLOWING THE CAPTURE OF THUONG DUC DISTRICT SEAT ON AUGUST 7, ENEMY ACTIVITY DECLINED IN INTENSITY, ALTHOUGH NOT IN THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS. VNAF FLEW 322 COMBAT SORTIES DURING THE WEEK, IN SUPPORT OF GVN FORCES IN QUANG NAM AND QUANG NGAI. GVN CASUALTIES: 106 KIA, 483 WIA. NVA/VC LOSSES: 338 KIA, 3 RETURNEES.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WAS LITTLE ACTIVITY IN QUANG TRI OR THUA THIEN DURING THE WEEK EXCEPT FOR THE ROCKETING OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE 3RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE AT AN DO (T-BONE) BASE: 1 WIA, 3 JEEPS AND 3 ANTENNAE DAMAGED. ON AUG. 6 A MAN WAS KILLED WHEN THE RAILROAD WAS MINED. TRAFFIC WAS TEMPORARILY INTERRUPTED.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

ON AUGUST 7 ENEMY FORCES WHICH HAD LAUNCHED THE ATTACK ON JULY 29 FINALLY DROVE THE 79TH RANGER BATTALION FROM ITS POSITIONS AT THUONG DUC AND TOOK THE DISTRICT SEAT. THE ENEMY MAINTAINED A HIGH LEVEL OF LIGHTER ATTACKS ELSEWHERE IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE, PARTICULARLY IN QUE SON DISTRICT. ON AUG. 11 A COMPANY OF THE 123RD RF BN WAS OVERRUN THERE. THE DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS OF HIEU DUC, DUC DUC, DUY XUYEN AND DIEN BAN WERE ALL SHELLED DURING THE WEEK. ON AUGUST 8 THE RAILROAD IN QUANG NAM WAS MINED AND TRAFFIC WAS TEMPORARILY INTERRUPTED.

4. IN RESPONSE TO THE ENEMY ACTIVITY IN QUANG NAM, LT. GEN.

NGO QUANG TRUONG IS MOVING THE AIRBORNE BRIGADE FROM NORTHWEST OF HUE TO THE DA NANG AREA. THEY WILL BE JOINED THERE BY THE 1ST AIRBORNE BRIGADE, BROUGHT FROM SAIGON. THIS WILL LEAVE ONE AIRBORNE BRIGADE NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS. OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR QUANG NAM WILL THEN BE DIVIDED AMONG THE 3RD DIVISION, THE 2ND DIVISION (IN QUE SON) AND THE AIRBORNE DIVISION.

5. IN QUANG TIN ENEMY ATTACKS WERE CONCENTRATED IN LY TINH DISTRICT. IN THE MAJOR ATTACK ON AUG. 7 THE SUBSECTOR COMMAND POST WAS SHELLED AND THE ENEMY ATTACKED PSDF POSITIONS IN 3 HAMLETS IN KY SANH VILLAGE. THE HAMLETS WERE SUCCESSFULLY
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DEFENDED.

6. IN QUANG NGAI COMMUNIST UNITS REMAINED ON THE OFFENSIVE. A NUMBER OF GVN POSITIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AND REFUGEES HAVE FLED CONTESTED AREAS. THE GREATEST ENEMY PRESSURE WAS CONCENTRATED IN EASTERN SON TINH DISTRICT AND IN NEIGHBORING BINH SON WHERE NAVAL GUNFIRE WAS USED TO SUPPORT GVN POSITIONS ON THE BATANGAN PENINSULA. THE COMMUNISTS SHELLED NGHIA HANH DISTRICT TOWN AFTER HAVING TAKEN NEIGHBORING CONG HOA VALLEY THE PRECEDING WEEK. VNAF FLEW AIR STRIKES IN SUPPORT OF GVN COUNTER ATTACKS AT THE NORTHERN ENTRANCE OF THE VALLEY. THE ENEMY LAUNCHED LESSER ATTACKS IN MO DUC AND DUC PHO DISTRICTS AND ENEMY PROPAGANDA TEAMS TOLD THE PEOPLE THAT THEY WOULD ATTACK SOON. MUCH OF THE RECENT GVN EFFORT TO EXPAND SECURE AREAS IN QUANG NGAI HAS BEEN UNDONE.

7. ICCS:

THERE WAS NO ICCS ACTIVITY NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS. IN ICCS REGION II THERE WAS ONLY ONE OBSERVATION, THAT OF THE DA NANG AIRBASE ROCKETING WHICH TOOK PLACE ON AUG. 6.

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VI -- MR-2

1. SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH FIGHTING WAS SOMEWHAT LIGHTER THIS WEEK THAN LAST, ENEMY CASUALTIES WERE CONSIDERABLY HEAVIER. THE GVN COUNTERATTACK IN BINH DINH HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN RETAKING THE NHONG PASS AND NORTHERN STRETCHES OF QL-1, AND HILL 338 COMMAND-

ING THE PORT OF DE GI, ALL OF WHICH FELL DURING THE ENEMY SUMMER OFFENSIVE SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. IN PLEIKU, PLEI ME CAMP AND FB 711 REMAIN UNDER HEAVY ENEMY FIRE, WITH, HOWEVER, FEW FRIENDLY AND COMPARITIVELY HIGH ENEMY CASUALTIES. TOTAL INCIDENTS REPORTED IN II CGVFDHIS WEEK WERE 110, COMPARED TO 147 THE PREVIOUS WEEK. THE MAJORITY OCCURRED IN THE HIGHLANDS, WITH THE GREATEST NUMBER IN PLEIKU. BOTH TAC AIR AND VR MISSIONS WERE DOWN COMPARED TO LAST WEEK, AS A RESULT OF BAD WEATHER AND DIVERSION OF SORTIES TO III CORPS. II CORPS IS WELL OVER ITS ALLOCATED 56,736 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION FOR THE MONTH ENDING AUGUST 25. A SPECIAL ALLOCATION OF 31,200 ROUNDS WAS PROVIDED, OF WHICH ONLY 14,500 ARE LEFT WITH A THIRD OF THE MONTH STILL REMAINING. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES ARE REPORTED AS 108 KIA, 304 WIA AND 135 MIA. A WEEK AGO THESE FIGURES WERE 137, 384 AND 72. ENEMY LOSSES REPORTEDLY INCLUDE 930 KIA AND 4 CIA, COMPARED TO 553 AND 4 LAST WEEK.

2. BINH DINH: ENEMY ACTIVITY WAS DOWN COMPARATIVELY THIS WEEK, AS FRIENDLY FORCES CONTINUED THEIR COUNTERATTACK AGAINST NVA INCURSIONS IN PHU MY AND PHU CAT DISTRICTS. THIS CULMINATED IN RETAKING THE NHONG PASS IN PHU MY, AND HILL 338 IN PHU CAT WHICH OVERLOOKS THE PORT TOWN OF DEGI. BY REGAINING CONTROL OF THE PASS, THE GVN WAS ABLE TO REOPEN QL-1 FROM QUI NHON TO TAM QUAN. THIS HAS TAKEN THE STRAIN OFF NAVAL SHIPS AND HELICOPTERS THAT HAVE BEEN PROVIDING SUPPLIES AND AMMUNITION TO FRIENDLY FORCES IN HOAI NHON, TAM QUAN AND NORTHERN PHU MY DISTRICTS. SECTOR S-2 REPORTS THAT THE VC BATTLE PLAN IS TO CONTINUE FIGHTING IN SOUTHERN PHU MY AND NORTHERN PHU CAT DISTRICTS, WHILE THE NVA IS TO TRY TO OCCUPY ALL THE VILLAGES IN PHU MY NORTH OF THE NHONG PASS AND THE 14TH NVA SAPPER BN (WITH LOCAL FORCES) WILL ATTEMPT

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TO CUT QL-19 NEAR THE AN KHE PASS. ACCORDING TO THE ARVN 22ND DIV COMMANDER, GENERAL NINH, AND THE PROVINCE CHIEF, COLONEL THO, THE CURRENT GVN OFFENSIVE HAS TWO OBJECTIVES: A) ATTACKING THE NVA 2ND REGT IN HOAI AN DISTRICT NORTH AND WEST OF THE NHONG PASS TO EXTEND THE NHONG PASS PERIMETER FURTHER WEST OF QL-1; AND B) ATTACKING ELEMENTS OF THE 141ST REGT WEST AND NORTH OF BONG SON TO OCCUPY HIGH GROUND ABOVE THE SONG LAI GIANG RIVER AND ROUTE 514, THEREBY BLOCKING TRAFFIC ON THE ROAD AND THE RIVER. AT THE SAME TIME, RF SUPPORTED BY M-113'S AND ARTILLERY ARE CONDUCTING EXTENSIVE OPERATIONS EAST OF QL-1 FROM BONG SON TO TAM QUAN TO KEEP ENEMY PRESSURE OFF THE REAR OF THE MAJOR OPERATION TO THE WEST. THE GVN FORCES HAVE ACQUITTED THEMSELVES WELL DURING THE HEAVY FIGHTING OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS. GVN CIVIL OFFICIALS HAVE EXPEDITIOUSLY AND EFFECTIVELY MOBILIZED THEIR RESOURCES TO CARE FOR OVER 84,000 REFUGEES GENERATED BY THE RECENT COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE IN BINH DINH. CONTRIBUTIONS OF FOOD AND CLOTHING WERE RECEIVED FROM RESIDENTS OF QUI NHON CITY AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS LED BY THE VIETNAM RED CROSS, WHILE THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN SAIGON PROVIDED 42 MILLION PIASTERS TO PURCHASE A 7-DAY EMERGENCY SUPPLY

OF RICE. ABOUT 29,000 OF THESE REFUGEES ARE ALREADY HEADED BACK TO THEIR HOMES.

3. PLEIKU: THERE WAS A SHARP JUMP IN THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS THIS WEEK. FOR THE SECOND WEEK RUNNING THE ENEMY CONTINUED HEAVY ATTACKS ON PLEI ME CAMP AND FB 711, WITH MORTAR, ARTILLERY AND ROCKET FIRE SUPPORTED BY GROUND ATTACKS. ALTHOUGH PLEI ME RECEIVED 2,500 ROUNDS OF MIXED ORDNANCE AUGUST 10-11, IT WAS REPORTED THAT FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE FEW, WHILE FRIENDLY AIR SORTIES AND ARTILLERY COUNTER-FIRE INFLICTED EXTREMELY HEAVY CASUALTIES ON THE ENEMY. ENEMY CASUALTIES WERE ALSO HEAVY AT FB 711. THE 82ND RANGER BN AT PLEI ME IS STILL HOLDING, BUT CHU HO, A SMALL OUTPOST JUST SOUTHWEST OF THE CAMP, DEFENDED BY A PLATOON OF THE 82ND, FELL AUGUST 11. A RANGER COMPANY SENT TO ASSIST CHU HO IS MISSING AND UNACCOUNTED FOR. THE ARVN 53RD REGT HAS BEEN MOVED TO THE VICINITY OF PHU NHON DISTRICT HQ, AND TWO OF ITS BNS ARE BEING MOVED SOUTH ON TL-6C TO RELIEVE AND REINFORCE PLEI ME. TWO 175MM HOWITZER TUBES HAVE BEEN MOVED TO PHU NHON TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ARTILLERY SUPPORT. THE ENEMY CONTINUES TO HARASS LOC'S IN THE PROVINCE, WITH 12 INCIDENTS REPORTED ALONG ROUTE 19 TO BINH DINH. THE ROAD, HOWEVER, REMAINS OPEN.
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4. KONTUM: THERE WAS A MARKED DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FRIENDLY AND ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS OVER THE PAST WEEK, AND A VERY LOW NUMBER OF FRIENDLY CONTACTS COMPARED TO NUMBER OF OPERATIONS CONDUCTED. CORRESPONDINGLY, FRIENDLY LOSSES WERE LOW, AS WERE REPORTS OF ENEMY LOSSES. THE SITUATION AT MANG BUK WAS GENERALLY QUIET, ALTHOUGH 21 MORTAR ROUNDS WERE RECEIVED AUGUST 10, RESULTING IN 2 RF WOUNDED. SECTOR S-2 EXPECTS AN ENEMY ATTACK ON CHUONG NGHIA OF GREATER STRENGTH THAN THE EARLIER ATTACK ON MANG BUK, AND THINKS THAT THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST BOTH OUTPOSTS MAY POSSIBLY BE RESUMED IN AN EFFORT TO FURTHER DISRUPT THE GOVERNMENT'S CAPABILITIES TO SUPPORT THEM DURING THE RAINY SEASON.

5. PHU YEN: MILITARY ACTIVITY DECLINED FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE WEEK, TO A LEVEL COMPARABLE TO THAT PRIOR TO JULY 19 WHEN THE ENEMY MOUNTED ITS RECENT OFFENSIVE. LOCAL-FORCE ENEMY UNITS CONTINUE TO CONCENTRATE WITHIN STRIKING RANGE OF XUAN PHUOC VILLAGE IN DONG XUAN DISTRICT, THE SCENE OF THE HEAVIEST FIGHTING DURING THE ENEMY OFFENSIVE. A POLITICAL RALLIER HAS INDICATED THAT THE VC MILITARY INITIATIVE WAS IN PURSUIT OF ORDERS RECEIVED BY VC MR-5 TO MOUNT A THREE-PHASE OFFENSIVE BETWEEN JUNE 1974 AND JANUARY 1975.

6. KSENH
HOA: SECTOR SECURITY FORCES ARE ON ALERT AFTER A SMALL PATROL SPOTTED AN ESTIMATED 40 ENEMY TROOPS ABOUT NINE

KM WEST-SOUTHWEST OF NHA TRANG IN THE MOUNTAINS (BP 945500)
LATE IN THE EVENING OF AUGUST 9. ROADSIDE SNIPING, WHICH
PREVIOUSLY OCCURRED EARLY OR LATE IN THE DAY, NOW OCCURS AT
ANY TBZME AND APPEARS ON THE INCREASE. THERE WERE FOUR INCIDENTS
INVOLVING CIVILIAN BUSES ON QL-21 AUGUST 8 AND 9, IN WHICH 11
PERSONS WERE WOUNDED. A MILITARY TRUCK DEPARTING VAN NINH
FOR NINH HOA CAME UNDER AK-47 FIRE AUGUST 10 AT CP 028960.
A SMALL SECTION OF DARLAC PROVINCE, SOUTH OF QL-21, HAS BEEN PLACED
UNDER OPERATIONAL CONTROBTJ KHANH HOA SECTOR. AN AMBUSH SET
BY FRIENDLY FORCES AUGUST 7 ALONG A TRAIL IN THE AREA RESULTED
IN 10 ENEMY KIA, AND
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VII -- MR-3

1. THE FOCUS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR 3 SHIFTED ABRUPTLY TO BIEN HOA PROVINCE DURING THE WEEK, AS COMBINED NVA/VC FORCES LAUNCHED A SERIES OF GROUND ASSAULTS AND ABFS THROUGHOUT THE NORTHERN DISTRICTS OF BIEN HOA AND CONDUCTED EIGHT SEPARATE ROCKET ATTACKS AGAINST BIEN HOA AIRBASE BETWEEN AUGUST 10-13. RVNAF REMAINS UNABLE TO EJECT ENEMY FORCES FROM THE BEN CAT (BINH DUONG) AND BAO BINH (LONG KHANH) AREAS. MR 3 HQ FEELS THAT THE BIEN HOA ATTACKS CONSTITUTE A PREPARATION FOR SUBSEQUENT COMMITMENT OF MAJOR 7TH NVA DIVISION UNITS AGAINST EASTERN BINH DUONG AND NORTHWESTERN BIEN HOA. THOUGH SOME SENIOR MR 3 OFFICERS CONSIDER THE 9TH NVA DIVISION ALREADY HEAVILY COMMITTED IN WESTERN AND SOUTHWESTERN BINH DUONG, OTHERS BELIEVE IT RETAINS THE CAPABILITY TO MOUNT FURTHER SIGNIFICANT OFFENSIVE ACTIONS IN COORDINATION WITH THE ANTICIPATED 7TH DIVISION ATTACKS. THE MR 3 G-2 CARRIES TWO REGIMENTS OF THE 5TH NVA DIVISION NEAR THE TAY NINH BORDER AND HAS NOTED RECON ACTIVITY WITHIN TAY NINH PROVINCE BY DIVISIONAL ELEMENTS. TAY NINH SECTOR BELIEVES THE 5TH NVA DIV MAY ATTEMPT TO OCCUPY THE AREA WEST OF THE VAM CO DONG RIVER IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE COMMUNIST CONTROLLED AREAS IN MR 3 AND TO REDUCE FRICTION WITH THE KHMER COMMUNISTS BY MOVING THEIR BASES OUT OF CAMBODIA.

2. MILITARY INCIDENTS REPORTED BY MR 3 HQ ROSE SOMEWHAT, FROM LAST WEEK'S 191 TO 210. BINH DUONG PROVINCE AGAIN HAD THE HIGHEST TOTAL WITH 70 INCIDENTS, MAINLY MINOR ABF'S AND LIMITED GROUND CONTACTS (85 LAST WEEK), WHILE BIEN HOA PROVINCE REGISTERED 51 (A DRAMATIC RISE FROM LAST WEEK'S 8). MR 3 HQ RECORDED 38 GROUND ATTACKS (27 LAST PERIOD), 110 ATTACKS BY FIRE (103 LAST PERIOD), AND 14 COMBINED GROUND AND ATTACKS BY FIRE (4 LAST PERIOD). TWENTY MININGS, 15 SMALL ARMS HARASSMENTS, AND TWO ASSASSINATIONS WERE ALSO REPORTED.

3. NVA/VC ARTILLERY AND MORTAR FIRINGS WERE REPORTEDLY UP FROM LAST WEEK'S 1,170 ROUNDS TO 1,912 ROUNDS, WHILE RVNAF ARTILLERY
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FIRINGS OF SOME 22,000 ROUNDS REMAINED AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL AS

THE LAST PERIOD'S 20,197 ROUNDS. VNAF LISTED 336 FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT SORTIES AND 358 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP SORTIES FOR THIS PERIOD, CLAIMING 216 NVA/VC KILLED. HOWEVER, THESE ARE ONLY 3RD AIR DIV STATISTICS AND NUMEROUS ADDITIONAL REGIONAL SUPPORT MISSIONS WERE FLOWN OUT OF TAN SON NHUT IN RECENT DAYS. ONE UH-1H AND ONE A-1 FLYING IN SUPPORT OF RVNAF ACTIONS IN TAN UYEN (BIEN HOA) WERE HIT BY GROUND FIRE, BUT ONLY SLIGHTLY DAMAGED. THE 3RD AIR DIV A-2 STATED THAT ROCKET ATTACKS AGAINST BIEN HOA AIRBASE FROM AUGUST 10 - 13 HAD INFLICTED LIGHT DAMAGE UPON SIX F-5A'S. (HOWEVER, BIEN HOA SECTOR S-2 REPORTED THAT ONE OF THE F-5A'S HIT ON AUGUST 13 WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED.)

4. GVN LOSSES WERE GIVEN AS 42 KIA, 211 WIA, AND 16 MIA FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD, WHILE NVA/VC LOSSES WERE PUT AT 67 KIA, 7 CIA, AND 7 RALLIERS.

5. IN BIEN HOA PROVINCE, STARTING ON AUGUST 9, COMBINED NVA/VC FORCES LAUNCHED A SERIES OF GROUND ATTACKS AND ABF'S THROUGHOUT

THE PROVINCE'S NORTHERN TAN UYEN AND CONG THANH DISTRICTS. DATA AVAILABLE TO DATE IDENTIFIES THE PRINCIPAL ENEMY UNITS INVOLVED AS THE 5TH BN (165TH REGT, 7TH NVA DIV), THE D-9 SAPPER BN AND THE PHU LOI LOCAL FORCE BN; THESE ARE SUPPORTED BY LOCAL FORCE ELEMENTS. THE NVA/VC INITIALLY OVERRAN TWO OUTPOSTS, BUT WERE SUBSEQUENTLY DRIVEN FROM ONE OF THEM. RVNAF IS EMPLOYING FOUR RF BNS AND HEAVY AIR AND ARTILLERY STRIKES AGAINST THE ENEMY AS ACTION CONTINUES IN THE AREA, BUT FRIENDLY MOVES HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO PREVENT EIGHT SEPARATE ROCKET ABF'S AGAINST BIEN HOA AIRBASE SINCE AUGUST 10. ESTIMATED LOSSES FROM THESE ABF'S TOTALING SOME 57 PLUS ROUNDS INCLUDE 7 CIVILIANS KILLED, 13 CIVILIANS WOUNDED, 6 RVNAF WOUNDED, AND SIX F-5A'S DAMAGED (SEE PARA 3). THE MR3 COMMANDER DOES NOT FEEL THAT THE FOUR RF BNS FIGHTING THE NVA/VC CAN EITHER CLEAR THEM FROM THE AREA OR PREVENT CONTINUING ROCKET LAUNCHES AGAINST BIEN HOA, AND HAS TENTATIVE PLANS TO USE A REGIMENT-EQUIVALENT OF REGULAR ARVN TROOPS TO HELP CLEAR THE "ROCKET BELT" AREA NORTH OF THE DONG NAI.

6. ICCS: INDODEL REPORTED THAT THREE "OBSERVATIONS" WERE UNDERTAKEN DURING THE WEEK, ALL BY INDODEL ALONE. VE "OBSERVATIONS" CONSISTED OF CHECKS ON A TERRORIST GRENADING IN LONG AN
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ON AUGUST 7, AN ATTACK BY FIRE UPON A RIVER PATROL CRAFT IN BINH DUONG ON AUGUST 10, AND THE ROCKETING OF BIEN HOA ON AUGUST 10. INDODEL ALSO NOTED THAT THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS ARE NOW ARGUING MORE VOCIFEROUSLY FOR THE EVACUATION OF WHAT THEY TERM THE "DANGEROUS" XUAN LOC (LONG KHANH PROVINCE) SUB-REGIONAL TEAM SITE, ONE OF ONLY THREE SUCH SITES WHICH THE COMMUNIST DELEGATES STILL OCCUPY IN ICCS REGION V. THE OTHER TWO ARE AT VUNG TAU AND TAN AN. DESPITE THE ROCKETING, BOTH COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS REMAINED AT THEIR BIEN HOA QUARTERS.

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 DPW-01 SR-02 ORM-03

DRC-01 /170 W

----- 066585

R 141130Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7799

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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PART VIII -- MR 4

1. SECURITY SITUATION; (A) OVERALL ACTIVITY: MILITARY ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE DELTA CONTINUED TO DROP. GVN AND RVNAF OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE CORPS COMMANDER AND CHAU DOC PROVINCE CHIEF, HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT VC/NVA MAY BE PLANNING ANOTHER HIGHPOINT TO TEST THE USG RESPONSE IN VIEW OF THE RECENT PRESIDENTIAL RESIGNATION. THIS YEAR'S HISTORY OF MID-MONTH HIGHPOINTS SUPPORTS THE POSSIBILITY OF AN IMMINENT INCREASE IN ACTIVITY. AS PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES, ALL GVN FORCES ARE NOW RESTRICTED TO BASE.

(B) STATISTICAL SUMMARY: CORPS REPORTS 214 VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS (261 LAST WEEK), CONSISTING OF 18 GROUND ATTACKS (28), ONE INFILTRATION (NONE), 123 ABFS (155), 53 HARASSMENTS (67), 5 SABOTAGE (4) AND 14 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (6). IN SPITE OF THE DECREASED

ACTIVITY, GVN LOSSES ROSE TO 102 KIA (73), 444 WIA (535), 65 MIA (18), AND 2 CREW-SERVED (2) AND 127 INDIVIDUAL (83) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 389 VC/NVA KIA (493), 30 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (35) AND 5 CREW-SERVED (14) AND 143 INDIVIDUAL (153) WEAPONS SEIZED.

(C) NORTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN DINH TUONG CONTINUED T DECLINE, BUT TWO OB'S IN CAI BE (D) WERE OVERRUN--ONE OF WHICH WAS RETAKEN LATER THE SAME DAY. TWO COMPANIES OF THE 11TH REGIMENT/ 7TH ARVN DIVISION KILLED 16 VC/NVA WHILE SUSTAINING NO CASUALTIES IN A CONTACT 4 KM SE OF HAU MY. LEAFLETS DROPPED BY VC/NVA IN GIAO DUC (D) WARNED RESIDENTS TO MOVE AWAY FROM HIGHWAY 4 AS IT WOULD SOON BE INTERDICTED. IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE, GVN FORCES HAVE RECAPTURED SIX OF NINE OUTPOSTS LOST DURING JULY. ELEMENTS OF VC 504 LF BATTALION AND D-1 BATTALION/Z15 REGIMENT CONTINUE TO OCCUPY AREAS AROUND THE THREE OUTPOSTS NOT YET RETAKEN ALONG THE CUNG CANAL IN KIEN BINH (D). ACTIVITY IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE WAS LIGHT: SECTOR ATTRIBUTES THE LULL TO UNDERMANNED VC/NVA UNITS. NO VC/NVA UNITS HAVE LEFT THE PROVINCE, BUT THEY HAVE BEEN INACTIVE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.

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(D) CENTRAL DELTA: IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE 5 ROUNDS OF 82MM KILLED

FIVE AND WOUNDED 12 IN BEN TRE, THE PROVINCE CAPITAL AND AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE DESTROYED AN L-19 AIRCRAFT AT KIEN HOA AIRFIELD. TWO HAMLET CHIEFS WERE ASSASSINATED IN BA TRI (D) AND HAM LONG (D). SEVERAL GVN OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN ORGANIZED IN GIONG TROM AND PHUOC KUNG DISTRICTS WHERE 200 NVA HAVE REPORTEDLY REINFORCED THE VC E-2 REGIMENT. ACTIVITY IN VINH BINH PROVINCE WAS LIGHT, PROBABLY AS A RESULT OF RECENT GVN WITHDRAWAL FROM PERIPHERAL OUTPOSTS IN CAU KE (D). CAU KE DISTRICT TOWN AND HOA AN AND PHONG PHU VILLAGES IN CAU KE ALL RECEIVED 61 AND 82MM FIRE WITH VERY LIGHT DAMAGE. 20 PSDF IN LONG SON (V), CAU NGANG (D) DESTROYED THEIR OUTPOST AND DEFECTED TO THE OTHER SIDE. ACTIVITY IN NEIGHBORING VINH LONG PROVINCE WAS LIGHT. ONE OB IN TRA ON (D) WAS ABANDONED FOLLOWING A VC/NVA ATTACK, BUT ELSEWHERE IN THE PROVINCE GVN FORCES WERE MORE AGGRESSIVE. IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE, AN OB DEFENDED BY 24 PF WAS REPORTED OVERRUN 3 KM SW OF PHONG THUAN WITH ONLY ONE PF WOUNDED. KIEN GIANG PROVINCE WAS QUIET FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE WEEK--MOST INCIDENTS CONSISTING OF ABF AGAINST GVN POSITIONS ALONG INFILTRATION ROUTE 1C IN KIEN TAN, KIEN THANH, AND KIEN BINH DISTRICTS. SECTOR SOURCES FEEL ANOTHER VC/NVA HIGHPOINT IS IMMINENT WITH KIEN AN AND HIEU LE DISTRICT TOWNS, XEO BO NAVAL BASE (KIEN AN) AND PHI THONG VILLAGE (KIEN THANH) THE MOST LIKELY TARGETS. (E) SOUTHERN DELTA: IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE, THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY REMAINED LOW. MOST GVN CASUALTIES RESULTED FROM A VC/NVA ATTACK ON A NIGHT POSITION OF THE 482ND RF BATTALION, CAUSING 12 KILLED, 21 WOUNDED, AND 28 MISSING, INCLUDING CIVILIANS. ACTIVITY IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE RETURNED TO NORMAL AFTER A VERY QUIET WEEK, WITH GVN FORCES INITIATING MOST OF THE ACTIVITY. A PF SWEEP IN PHUOC LONG (D) RESULTED IN 20 VC KIA. VC/NVA ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE SOON IN VINH CHAU (D), WHERE LF COMPANIES AND PHU LOI BATTALION ELEMENTS HAVE REPORTEDLY PLANNED A HIGHPOINT FOR AUGUST 10-20; AND IN NORTHERN PHUOC LONG (D), WHERE THE Z-8 BATTALION/D-2 REGIMENT WAS SIGHTED TWICE. ACTIVITY IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE REMAINED LOW. ONLY TWO RIFLE COMPANIES OF THE 21ST ARVN DIVISION REMAIN IN PROVINCE. COMMANDERS OF THREE ORGANIC RF BATTALIONS MET THIS WEEK TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR FORMATION OF AN ADDITIONAL MOBILE RF BATTALION. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN WILL REPORTEDLY INVOLVE WITHDRAWAL FROM SOME OUTPOSTS. IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE, VC/NVA FORCES INITIATED PRESSURE ON THE HOA BINH FIRE SUPPORT BASE AND NEARBY RACH CHET OB

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ON THE EASTERN EDGE OF THE U MINH FOREST. THE OB WAS ABANDONED, BUT RF DEFENDERS WERE ORDERED TO REOCCUPY IT AND REMAIN IN CONTACT WITH VC/NVA ATTACKERS. GVN SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE VC HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED WATERBORNE RESUPPLY ACTIVITY.

2. ICCS ACTIVITIES: THE HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE ICCS AND A RETINUE OF MILITARY MEMBERS FROM SAIGON HUNGDEL VISITED THE

COMPOUNDS AT REGION VII HEADQUARTERS IN CAN THO AND IN VINH
LONG AUGUST 8. THE VISIT WAS CEREMONIAL AND COORDINATED FULLY
WITH THE TPJMC.
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